

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-03 /010 W
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P 231002Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0965

UNCLAS NIAMEY 2362

FOR ACTING ASST SEC MULCAHY AND AF/EX

E.O. 11652: N/A

TTAGS: AMED, APER NG

SUBJECT: CONSULAR FUNCTION AT NIAMEY

REF: A. FRANKFURT 3999; B. NIAMEY 2353

1. WITHOUT PREJUDGING DECISION ON CURRAN'S
EVENTUAL RETURN TO NIAMEY OR TRANSFER TO DEPARTMENT
DURING WIFE'S RECUPERATION, CLEAR WE WILL BE LACKING
HIS SERVICES FOR SOME TIME TO COME. BEING AN
EXCEPTIONALLY TALENTED YOUNG OFFICER, CURRAN
HAS BEEN HANDLING ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL, CONSULAR
MATTERS AND SELFHBELP PROGRAM PLUS GOOD SHARE OF
POLITICAL REPORTING. DURING HIS ABSENCE ALL OF
THIS WILL SUFFER AND WE WILL HAVE TO FOREGO
MOST REQUIRED REPORTING (CERP, ETC) AS WELL AS
VOLUNTARY REPORTS. HOWEVER, WE OBVIOUSLY
MUST FULFILL OUR CONSULAR RESPONSIBILITIES. THESE
ARE NOT ONEROUS, INVOLVING ABOUT EIGHT HOURS PER
WEEK, BUT THEY MUST BE PERFORMED. DCM BUCHE WHO
SCHEDULED LEAVE NIAMEY MID-JULY ON TRANSFER HAS
TEMPORARILY ASSUMED FUNCTION.

2. QUERY. HAS JACK DAVISON WHO TAKING OVER AS
DCM WITH JULY 15 ETA HAD ANY CONSULAR
TRAINING/EXPERIENCE? IF SO, HE SHOULD BE AWARE
THAT HE WILL ALSO BECOME OUR CONSULAR OFFICER
FOR AWHILE. EXEQUATUR SHOULD BE ARRANGED FOR HIM.
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3. IF DAVISON HAS HAD NO CONSULAR EXPERIENCE
SUGGEST FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES TO COPE WITH SITUATION.

A) ASSIGN FSS-8 MARGARET A. ZIRKER TO NEXT
CONSULAR COURSE IN DEPARTMENT. SHE IS FULLY
COMPETENT TO HANDLE THIS WORK. DURING HER ABSENCE
FROM NIAMEY, FSS-9 CAROLYN WALLS COULD FILL IN BEHIND
HER AS MY SECRETARY.

B. DESIGNATE FSO-5 ERNESTINE HECK AS PART TIME
CONSULAR OFFICER, IF EXCEPTION CAN BE ARRANGED TO PERMIT
HER TO WORK AT THIS POST. SHE HAS HAD CONSULAR COURSE
AND COULD EASILY PINCH HIT FOR CURRAN. THIS IS
PROBABLY MOST EXPEDITIOUS SOLUTION IF REGULATIONS
PERMIT.

C. ASSIGN TDY OFFICER HERE BY JULY 15.

4. IF DAVISON HAS NOT HAD CONSULAR TRAINING WE DO
NOT RPT NOT RECOMMEND DELAYING HIS ARRIVAL HERE
WHILE HE ACQUIRES IT. HE SHOULD STICK TO PRESENT
ETA OF JULY 15 AS HE IS DESPERATELY NEEDED.
PLEASE ADVISE. HECK

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